WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A collapsible land anchor comprising:

an anchor body having a tapered bottom end portion and a top end portion, the anchor body provided with a cavity extending longitudinally between the tapered bottom end portion and the top end portion;

a drive anvil coupled to the top end portion of the anchor body;

a runner member having a length and slidable longitudinally across the drive anvil between an operative position, in which at least a first portion of the length of the runner member extends beyond the drive anvil away from the cavity of the anchor body, and a collapsed position, in which the runner member is displaced towards the cavity of the anchor body relative to the operative position and in which at least a second portion of the length of the runner member is stowed in the cavity of the anchor body;

a retraction anvil coupled to the top end portion of the runner member so as to be longitudinally spaced apart from the drive anvil when the runner member is in the operative position;

a hammer weight slidable along the runner member between the drive anvil and the retraction anvil when the runner member is in the operative position; and

a locking mechanism constructed and arranged to lock the runner member in the operative position.

2. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the tapered bottom end portion is truncated.

3. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the anchor body comprises first and second walls connected to each other to define a V-shape cross section.

4. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the anchor body comprises an angle iron.

5. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the cavity is open.

6. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the drive anvil has an aperture.

7. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 6, wherein the runner member is slidable through the aperture of the drive anvil.

8. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 7, wherein the aperture comprises a circular hole.

9. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the runner member has a tubular configuration.

10. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein in the operative position a majority of the length of the runner member is located outside of the cavity of the anchor body, and wherein in the collapsed position the majority of the length of the runner member is stowed in the cavity of the anchor body.

11. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein in the operative position at least 80 percent of the length of the runner member is located outside of the cavity of the anchor body, and wherein in the collapsed position at least 80 percent of the length of the runner member is stowed in the cavity of the anchor body.

12. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the runner member comprises stainless steel.

13. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the runner member comprises aluminum.

14. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein in the collapsed position, the hammer weight is sandwiched between the retraction anvil and the drive anvil to prevent sliding movement of the hammer weight along the runner member.

15. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the hammer weight has an annular cross section and is engaged around the runner member.

16. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, further comprising diametrically opposed arms extending from the hammer weight.

17. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the locking mechanism comprises:

first and second collar members longitudinally spaced apart from each other and defining respective passages that are coaxially aligned and through which the runner member passes;

a clamp interposed between the first and second collar members and having a clamp passage through which the runner member passes; and

a clamping mechanism in operative association with the clamp for decreasing the size of the passage of the clamp for grasping of the runner member.

18. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, wherein the clamping mechanism comprises a quick release lever.

19. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, further comprising a retention pin extending from a bottom end portion of the runner member and retained in the cavity, wherein the retention arm is arranged to prevent sliding movement of the bottom end portion of the runner member through the aperture of the drive anvil.

20. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, further comprising:

a rode-tying ring extending around the anchor body and movable longitudinally along a portion of the anchor body; and

a lanyard having a first end attached to the rode-tying ring and a second end attached to another part of the collapsible land anchor, wherein the lanyard has a sufficient short length to prevent the rode-tying ring from slipping over the tapered end portion of the anchor body.

21. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1, further comprising an LED positioned on the retraction anvil.

22. A collapsible land anchor comprising:

an anchor body having a tapered bottom end portion and a top end portion, the anchor body provided with a cavity extending longitudinally between the tapered bottom end portion and the top end portion;

a drive anvil coupled to the top end portion of the anchor body;

a runner member having a length and slidable longitudinally across the drive anvil between an operative position, in which at least a first portion of the length of the runner member extends beyond the drive anvil away from the cavity of the anchor body, and a collapsed position, in which the runner member is displaced towards the cavity of the anchor body relative to the operative position and in which at least a second portion of the length of the runner member is stowed in the cavity of the anchor body;

a retraction anvil coupled to the top end portion of the runner member so as to be longitudinally spaced apart from the drive anvil when the runner member is in the operative position;

a hammer weight slidable along the runner member between the drive anvil and the retraction anvil when the runner member is in the operative position; and

a locking mechanism constructed and arranged to lock the runner member in the operative position and the collapsed position.

23. A land anchor comprising:

an anchor body having a tapered bottom end portion and a top end portion;

a drive anvil coupled to the top end portion of the anchor body;

a runner member;

a retraction anvil coupled to the top end portion of the runner member and longitudinally spaced apart from the drive anvil;

a hammer weight slidable along the runner member between the drive anvil and the retraction anvil;

a rode-tying ring extending around the anchor body and movable longitudinally along a portion of the anchor body; and

a lanyard having a first end attached to the rode-tying ring and a second end attached to another part of the collapsible land anchor, wherein the lanyard has a sufficient short length to prevent the rode-tying ring from slipping over the tapered end portion of the anchor body.

24. A land anchor comprising:

an anchor body having a tapered bottom end portion and a top end portion;

a drive anvil coupled to the top end portion of the anchor body;

a runner member having a longitudinal axis;

a retraction anvil coupled to the top end portion of the runner member and longitudinally spaced apart from the drive anvil;

a hammer weight slidable along the runner member between the drive anvil and the retraction anvil; and

at least one graspable arm extending from the hammer weight in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

25. A collapsible land anchor according to claim 1 in combination with a boat, further comprising a rode connecting the boat to the collapsible land anchor.